

## KOREAN EMBASSY

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### Facsimile Service Cover Sheet

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TO : Ms. Julia L. Ho

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Office of International Programs, FDA

FROM : Young Hak Yoo

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Health & Welfare Counselor

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### Message

Dear Ms. Ho,

How are you these days ?

It has been long since we met each other.

Attached please find the Korean government's comments on the interim final rule of the Bioterrorism Act.

The comments are our government's response to the FDA's reopening of comment period for the registration of food facilities and prior notice, which opened for 30 days beginning April 14. While a few individual institutes or companies in Korea might have submitted similar comments to the FDA through the internet, our government would also like to submit the comments at a government level.

It would be much appreciated, therefore, if you could forward it to the responsible officers of the CFSAN/FDA and obtain a reply from them at your earliest convenience.

I am looking forward to hearing from you.  
Thank you very much.

Young Hak Yoo



Enclosure: As stated

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## **Korea's Comments on Bioterrorism Act**

### **1. General comments**

The Korean government is well aware of the US government's security concerns since the 9.11 terrorist attacks and its endeavor to reinforce its security against bioterrorism by enacting Bioterrorism Act. The Korean government also appreciates the US government's efforts to share information about the Act by holding seminars and soliciting comments.

However, as the Korean government explained to the US government on various occasions including at the Quaterly Trade Meetings, the Korean government is concerned that the Bioterrorism Act would adversely affect trade between Korea and the US. Particularly, the Korean government believes that the prior notice and facility registration requirements would restrict trade more than necessary. The Korean government hopes that the US government will implement the Act in the least trade-restrictive manner in accordance with WTO/SPS Agreement.

### **2. Specific comments and suggestions**

- a. According to the PNSI, Anticipated Arrival Date should be within 5 days from the submission date for the Web Entry. Given that it takes more than 2 weeks to arrive at a port in the U.S. from Korea, the 5 day timeframe is too short. Therefore, it would be desirable to extend or delete the timeframe for foreign exporters.

- b. Taking into account that English is not a mother tongue for Koreans, it would be desirable to provide Korean language service for Prior Notice and Facility Registration.
- c. It is also necessary to extend the PNSI operation time limit. Due to the 30 minute operation time limit, it is hard for the Koreans to finish the procedures in English in time.
- d. Some of the Korean product names on the list of the Product Code are not correct. In addition, there are missing items. These items should be corrected or added as follows:

o Product names to be corrected

Code	Before	→	After
32B99	JUNG JANG	→	JUNG JONG
24B13	KOCHUMAN	→	KOCHUJANG
16J05	SANJEOT	→	SAEWOOJEOT
24B13	DENJANG		
28Y99	TOEN CHANG	→	DOENJANG(all the same)
24B13	TWOENJANG		

o Product names to be added

Name	Reference
KIMCHI	Korean vegetable pickie, typically cabbage with red hot pepper
RAMYEON	noodle made of wheat flour and boiled with spices
GIM	salted and roasted laver

/End/

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**OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS  
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Please see the attached comments from the Embassy of Korea regarding the interim final rule (Docket No 02N-0278) concerning the Prior Notice (B/T).